

fiscated, in 1781. He then retired from the bar and took up his residence in Baltimore Town where he died, 17 March 1797.

3. Commissary General or Judge of Probate.

On 24 April 1673 this office was taken from the Principal Secretary and united with the Chancellorship whence it was separated in October, 1693. The Commissaryship General was omitted from the Constitution of 1776. An act of 20 April 1777 abolished it and assigned custody of the records of the Prerogative Office to the Register of Wills of Prince George's County.

1. Kenselm Cheseldyne of St. Mary's City (Prot.), was com. by acting Gov. Andros, 3 Oct. and sworn 4 Oct. 1693; recom. by Gov. Blakiston, 18 Oct. 1694 (AM, XX, 5, 30, 162). On 5 Aug. 1697 he was dismissed for drunkenness and negligence, and one Robert Smith of Talbot County was appointed in his place; but as Smith never took office, Cheseldyne served on till Aug. 1699 (AM, XXIII, 197-98). He died in Dec. 1708.

2. Col. John Addison of Charles County (Prot.), Col. John Courts of the same (Prot.), and Addison's step son-in-law, Col. Thomas Brooke II of Prince George's County (Prot. convert, 3 of his brothers Jesuite), com. jointly and sworn 12 Aug. 1699 (Test. Proc., 1. 18a, f. 1).

3. Col. Thomas Brooke II, com. sole Commissary General, 1 June 1700 (Ibid., 1. 18b, f. 1).

4. Col. Thomas Brooke II and his brother-in-law, Maj. William Dent of Charles County (Prot., Addison's stepson), com. jointly, 23 May 1704 (Ibid., 1. 20, f. 32). Dent died in Nov. 1704.